Thank you for your email. I wrote my memories of Rav Lichtenstein z"l. My memories are attached and below, at the end of this email. I give permission to post my memories on the web site. Thank you for sharing my memories with the Lichtenstein family.

The reason that I referred to myself as Nathan, when I wrote my memories, is that many people know me as Nathan which is why I thought that it might be less confusing for some people for me to refer to myself as Nathan.

Sincerely,
Natan

My tribute to Rav Aharon Lichtenstein z"l
By Nathan Weissler

My name is Nathan Weissler and I attended Yeshivat Darkaynu during the 5773 school year. Recently, I have been thinking about the positive and decisive impact that Rav Aharon Lichtenstein z"l had for me. I went to study in Israel with the goal of deepening my commitment to Judaism and specifically my Emunah. I am convinced that Hashem brings certain people into the life of an individual to not only have a positive impact for a person but to change a person’s life. Indeed, Rav Lichtenstein positively impacted me in a permanent way.

I am convinced that one of the major reasons that Hashem sent me to Yeshivat Darkaynu was so Rav Lichtenstein would have the opportunity to positively impact me and change my life. Rav Lichtenstein helped me to have a more clear understanding of what I would like to accomplish in life and helped me to have more appreciation for how with the help of Hashem, people are able to change an individual’s life. Furthermore, my encounters with Rav Lichtenstein reinforced my Emunah for the reasons described.

One of the most substantial ways in which Rav Lichtenstein had a permanent impact for me was by acting with kindness. For example, one day I purchased a copy of one of his books. I
decided that it would be very special if Rav Lichtenstein could inscribe the book to me. To the best of my recollection, that is the first occasion on which I had a conversation with Rav Lichtenstein. I introduced myself to him in the *beit midrash*. I asked Rav Lichtenstein if he would be willing to inscribe the book and said that I would be honored if he could do so. Rav Lichtenstein inscribed the book and conveyed that he was delighted to write an inscription. Another aspect of his kindness is that I noticed that he thought carefully about what to write when inscribing the book. Both Rav Lichtenstein agreeing to inscribe the book and the attitude with which he inscribed the book powerfully impacted me.

I was deeply touched by Rav Lichtenstein's kindness and I am still deeply touched. For the rest of my life, I will profoundly appreciate his kindness. Furthermore, the kindness that Rav Lichtenstein gave me helped to inspire me to think more about the importance of offering encouragement and acting with kindness. When I am kind and offer encouragement, I regularly ask myself, "What would Rav Lichtenstein do in this situation?" and I think of how Rav Lichtenstein's encouragement and kindness touched my soul.

Another meaningful encounter with Rav Lichtenstein took place towards the end of the school year. The Darkaynu students met with Rav Lichtenstein and every student asked him a question. I vividly remember immediately understanding that Rav Lichtenstein very much enjoyed speaking with the Darkaynu students and that is a memory that I will always cherish.

Additionally, Rav Lichtenstein helped to inspire me to deepen my Jewish dedication and commitment. I am seriously considering working in Jewish education. I would very much like to work in a profession in which I will be able to positively impact the Jewish community. Rav Lichtenstein helped to inspire my thoughts about a potential career. I also view the goal of working in Jewish education and positively impacting the Jewish community as an expression of *hakarat hatov* for the encouragement and kindness that the Yeshivat Har Etzion community gave me.

I will be very grateful to Rav Lichtenstein and the Yeshivat Har Etzion community for the rest of my life. I am looking forward to continuing my journey.